

RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE
Department of Natural Resources
Room 3710
November 8, 2005

Minutes

Member Present:

HARTY, Kimm – Utah Geological Survey
ZAREKARIZI, Susan – State Parks and Recreation
REICHERT, Michael – DEQ/Division of Water
BIRKS, William – DEQ/Division of Drinking Water
DANIELS, Ron – Division of Oil, Gas & Mining
SULLIVAN, Lenora – Division of Wildlife Resources
GUNNELL, Roy – Utah Department of Agriculture and Food

Others Present:

WRIGHT, Carolyn – GOPB/Public Lands
LANDURETH, Brenda – Department of Natural Resources
HIGDON, Matthew – Bureau of Land Management
GARCIA, Tim – U.S. Forest Service
COTTAM, Brian – GOPB (speaker phone)

Kimm Harty, Utah Geological Survey, chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. Kimm Harty facilitated introductions.

I. Approval of Minutes/Announcements

Susan Zarekarizi, State Parks and Recreation (SPR), moved to approve the September 13, 2005, and October 11, 2005, minutes. Roy Gunnell seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

II. Special Presentations/Discussions

No specially presentations were made at the meeting.

III. Reports from Agencies on Any Anticipated Projects

Tim Garcia, U.S. Forest Service, is the new Statewide Coordinator. Tim will represent the Forest Service supervisors in Utah. He will regularly attend RDCC meetings and serve as a liaison between the USFS and the Department of Natural Resources. He will be located in the Department of Natural Resources Administration office.

Susan Zarekarizi, SPR, mentioned two resource management plan efforts, Dead Horse and Great Salt Lake Planning are in progress. Hopefully, Anazasi State Park planning will begin soon.

Michael Reichert, Division of Water Quality, reported that detailed Great Salt Lake studies are being science panel. They will meet today to develop selenium standard for Great Salt Lake. Kennecott's proposed discharge into Great Salt Lake and Jordan River was denied to clean up groundwater contamination in the south end of the valley. Wastewater discharge is currently pumped into a Kennecott's tailings pond. No numeric

criteria exist for Great Salt Lake due the salinity of the lake. In the future, testing for mercury may begin.

Matthew Higdon, Bureau of Land Management reported that the implementation of Energy Act of 2005, would impact the Vernal Field Office. Approximately 24 new employees will be hired to keep up with the high volume of oil well drill permits. A Corridor EIS scoping meeting was conducted for right-of-way and utility corridors. An oil shale Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) could include tar sands or they may be separate EIS document. Geothermal energy scoping meeting may occur in Reno, Nevada next week. A Utah BLM coordinator may be selected next month to coordinate (team member/coordinator) on the Southern Nevada Water Authority project team.

Moab/Monticello have completed alternatives for their Resource Management Plans (RMP). They are doing one EIS and two RMPs simultaneously. Moab/Monticello and Richfield will make presentations to RDCC next year. Richfield RMP draft will be completed in February. Kanab has conducted their first alternative development meeting last week.

Cordell Roy, U.S. National Park Service reported that the scoping notice for the Viking Oil project in at Glen Canyon National Recreation Area was provided and should be released soon. An update newsletter will be provided when this phase is completed. The Park Service is considering undertaking an economic study recreation value of the Colorado River System. This study will attempt to quantify the economic value of recreational activities in ten parks along the Colorado River. A draft white paper/executive summary will be available in a few weeks after an internal review process. The U.S. Park Service will be interested in establishing partners for this effort.

Ron Daniels, Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (DOGM), inquired about the Colorado River tamarisk control team is located out of Arches National Park and an internal park program at Dinosaur National Monument that utilizes volunteers to physically remove tamarisk.

Ron Daniels reported that DOGM is tracking the legislative energy policy effort and working with various subgroups involved. The division is following the progress of the BLM Oil Shale Leasing EIS.

Seven counties are currently utilizing the County Resource Management Planning Toolkit (CRMP). Daggett, Garfield, Iron, Uintah, Tooele and San Juan Counties have received CRMP funding support from Governor's Office of Planning and Budget (GOPB) and have begun county resource management planning. Millard County has committed to using the toolkit and is receiving technical assistance from GOPB. Visit <http://governor.utah.gov/planning/CRMP.htm> for more info.

Seven cities (Bluffdale, Farmington, Kamas/Oakley, Lindon, Salt Lake and St. George) and nine counties (Cache, Iron, Salt Lake, and all counties with the Six County Association of Governments) have received funding through the Quality Growth

Commission to utilize GOPB's new Critical Lands Planning Toolkit. All of these projects are also receiving GOPB technical assistance to effectively utilize the toolkit. Visit <http://www.planning.utah.gov/CriticalLandsHome.htm> for more info.

Computer programmers are working on a Noticing Tool for RDCC and other planning projects. It may be available by March 2006.

Several federal and Utah agency are serving on Water Southern Nevada Water Authority project core team. Millard County is interested in getting involved in the comment process.

The RDCC chairman is a two-year appointment.

IV. Review of Proposed Items as Listed on the Project Management Library

A handout of the current status of the RDCC Project Management System was provided to the committee. No items were discussed.

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:45 a.m. (motion Susan Zarekarizi and seconded by Mike Reichert.) The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 13, 2005, at 9:00 a.m., in room 3710.

Other Items Discussed

Kimm Harty, chair, stated how the committee appreciated that all three federal partners were present at the RDCC meeting.

Please bring refreshments to the next RDCC meeting.